5: Kemp E-4, 5 (1926-1933)1935
EF6 Serbs EF6
Bulgaria EE1
Croats EF4



538 787 761 not as a real story but in fragments, remarks, speculations. It is by the aid only of this small change that we can hope to construct a relative chronology of folk-lore.

## THE NATURE AND CAUSE OF DISEASE

753 827 761 [752] [757] The blood, the various fluids of the body and its secretions and excretions are also essential parts which can be considered to bear in themselves life. In their expulsion from the body good or evil forces can also be expelled, which is the reason given for blood-letting and for purgation which often precede other treatment, notably in febrile complaints; while excrement is considered as a carrier of disease and carefully avoided as unclean or dangerous. But besides this, as intimately connected with the man, or lest it fall on an unclean place or be used against him, he himself must take care to secrete it. There are fragmental observances relating to evacuation in accordance with the local flora and certain taboos associated with plants, etc., and still very definite taboos with regard to places (sacred places, such as churchyards, cross-roads, scratched-up places (*sugrebljiva mesta*—Serbia), sacred trees, etc.).

514 778

827 753 The fluids or humours of the body, sometimes referred to collectively as blood, can go stale as it were. The blood can congeal or sour or be poisoned or become 'bad blood'. Only then is it usually considered reasonable to part with blood. Venous blood is often taken to be this bad blood. There is an extended idea that blood flows through the body and does not remain stationary. Headaches are caused by bad blood or too little blood, or too much blood. Epilepsy is 'a grave sickness of the blood'[1] and is treated by letting blood. Blood can flow to the head and cause headache, which is then cured by applying leeches to the temple. Infantile convulsions were treated by applications of herbs said to still the

[757] 755 827

[1] Cf. F. Ivanišević, *Poljica*, Zb. IX, p. 39; cf. G. Golemanov, *Materiali po narodna Medicina iz Gorno-Orehovsko*, Sb.N.U. XXX, p. 35.